REST IN PEACE, ROVER
EULOGIZING DEARLY DEPARTED PETS CAN EASE THE PAIN {page 13}

BEST GUESSES

WE PICK OSCAR WINNERS SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO {page 9}

TORONTO metro®
Monday, February 21, 2011
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News worth sharing.

Protesters shout for democracy in Libya

Hundreds join chants of 'Freedom for Libya! No more Gadhafi!' Signs bear slogans such as 'Stop killing Libyan kids' and 'Save our future generation'

About 300 protesters assembled at Yonge-Dundas Square yesterday, demanding that the Canadian government lend political support to Libya's struggle for democracy.

Wielding signs depicting gruesome images of slain Libyans, protesters called for an end to the reign of dictator Moammar Gadhafi, who has been in power for more than 40 years.

"Mr. Harper, Mr. Obama — I appeal to you as a Canadian citizen from Libyan descent to side with the Libyan people, who will be the victors, and to not give amnesty to this regime," Abdalla Ruken said at yesterday's protest. "This is a genocide that is happening right now."

Given the escalating violence that has already resulted in hundreds of deaths, Libyan-Canadians say they fear for the safety of their families back home.

When asked how he keeps in contact with his family in Libya, Fathi Abuzgaya wept as he answered: "I don't — because I can't."

"The Canadian government needs to step up and say something and help condemn Gadhafi for his actions."
KHAOULA BENGEZI, PROTEST ORGANIZER

Khaoula Bengezi, who organized the event, said she will continue to hold protests in Toronto until democracy is realized in Libya.

Toronto Police Service's 52 Division reported that no arrests were made during yesterday's peaceful protest.

Rallies were also held elsewhere in Canada over the weekend, including one on Parliament Hill and another outside the Manitoba legislature in Winnipeg.

MATTHEW LOPES

MORE COVERAGE, PAGES 3, 5

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ A protester holds a sign at yesterday's peaceful rally at Yonge-Dundas Square.

Another Bieber in the making?

Ten-year-old prodigy has two years of buzz behind her {page 11}

Raonic falls short in final

Thornhill tennis star stopped by Andy Roddick {page 18}

1 news

Coach says people must 'stick their necks out' to keep women's hockey in Olympics. Scan code for story.

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Canada's big banks will lead the way for investors as the markets open for the week. Video at metronews.ca

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'Gravy's not flowing through city hall'

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Mary-Margaret McMahon, councillor for Ward 32 in the Beach, thanks her supporters at a victory party at the Naval Club of Toronto on Gerrard Street East in this file photo.

Seems much of wasteful spending mayor pledged to cut wasn't there

Coun. Mary-Margaret McMahon believed there was a "gravy train."

As a fiscal conservative, she arrived at city hall fired up to end the wasteful spending that voters heard so much about during the election.

But after a little more than two months in office — two months of listening during in-camera meetings, reading staff reports and looking over confidential documents — this rookie councillor sees things a little differently.

"The gravy's not flowing through city hall like originally expected," McMahon said.

McMahon is the political newcomer who ousted an entrenched left-wing incumbent. She's just one of a dozen new councillors who promised change and rode a wave of anger and mistrust in local government to victory. They're now getting a dose of reality about the city's financial situation.

That's not to say there isn't waste, she added. Hundreds of thousands in savings could be found by turning off lights on weekends and powering down computers at night.

But when the city is $774 million short for 2012, a hundred thousand here and a million there don't go very far to fill that hole.

It's a lesson Mayor Rob Ford's team is also learning.

Insiders — ranging from members of the budget and executive committees to city financial staff — say that bubbling pot of gravy still hasn't been found. The financial renaissance Ford campaigned on is still a few years away, they say.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Possible cuts

Here are some of the programs the mayor may be considering cutting to fill the $774-million funding gap in 2012, according to documents obtained through a freedom-of-information request:

- **Toronto Water basement flooding program** The city is updating its water infrastructure in North York to prevent basement flooding.
- **Community Partnership and Investment Program (CPIP)** This city initiative distributes about $40 million in grants to cultural organizations in Toronto.
- **Toronto International Film Festival** In 2010, TIFF got $800,000 through CPIP.
- **Police** The Toronto Police Services budget is one of the largest drains on the city budget.
- **Toronto Zoo** Ford's transition team has examined the zoo board's financial statement of operations, which includes city funding of about $11.7 million, and other revenues.

Photo Malawi, 2009 © Tim Freccia/CARE
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Calm. Before the storm

▶ Stephanie Jones, 7, is disappointed as birds fly away as she feeds them.

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A little winter dust

Yesterday was a lovely day for families to spend time outdoors. Parts of southern Ontario were expected to get 10 centimetres of snow overnight.

Death of Libyan protester hits home

- **Foreign Affairs issues warning against non-essential travel to Libya**
- **Follows a surge of warnings against travel to parts of Africa, Middle East**

Amidst the protest at Yonge-Dundas Square yesterday, Ahmed Akra, 25, marched not only for the rights of fellow Libyans, but the memory of his cousin.

Akra said his cousin was killed Feb. 17 during a protest in their hometown near Tripoli.

"I feel so bad," he said, "he was only 22 years old."

Akra was able to call his mother in Libya, who broke the news of his cousin's death.

"She said he went outside and said he wants freedom and a better life, and then he was killed," Akra said.

▶ Ahmed Akra

In November 2009, Akra came to Canada on a student visa, leaving his parents, two brothers and a sister behind, eager to escape Libya's oppressive government and create a better future for himself.

"My family doesn't have the right to get good jobs and live their lives," Akra said.

"They wish to come here, but the government has stopped them from leaving."

He also said the Libyan government is preventing him from going to back to Libya.

In contrast, Akra said the Canadian government has helped support himself and start a cleaning business with a friend, who is in a similar situation.

"She said he went outside and said he wants freedom and a better life, and then he was killed."
AHMED AKRA

Akra said the protest in Toronto has brought good news and he hopes more people will join the cause.

"We ask the Canadian government to stand with us," he said.

KYLA SERGEJEW

Baby Kaylee hospitalized, father still facing charges

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Kaylee, 2, and her sister Savanna, 9 months.

Drama once again engulfs baby Kaylee's family as the two-year-old girl lies in a Toronto hospital bed.

The embattled Vitelli-Wallace clan now adds infidelity, new criminal charges and jail time to its ongoing woes, as Kaylee lies at the Hospital for Sick Children, where she has been since Jan. 25 when blood tests during a routine checkup came back abnormal.

"I'm destroyed inside, this is devastating," said Jason Wallace, Kaylee's father, about all that's been happening.

Kaylee first made headlines in 2009 when she was diagnosed with Joubert syndrome, a rare and often fatal genetic condition. When doctors wavered about whether to go ahead with a controversial transplant of Kaylee's heart into another ill baby, her parents went public.

Kaylee defied the odds once taken off the respirator and breathed on her own. Shortly after, her father garnered a different kind of media attention.

Last year, he successfully defended himself on charges of uttering death threats. He still faces charges of aggravated assault, robbery and accessory after the fact to both.

The parents said they will hold a news conference Wednesday asking for the public's help.

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▶ Mohammad Hamadeh, 43, left, listens to assistant Crown attorney Scott Patterson, centre, give his final submissions to the jury at Ontario Superior Court in Toronto.

Case declared a mistrial

Man accused of stabbing 81-year-old neighbour Allegedly went on $1,400 two-day spending spree with woman's credit card

A jury of five men and six women deliberated for 55 hours starting last Monday, but were discharged yesterday morning by Ontario Superior Court Justice Robert Clark after announcing they were at an impasse in the case of Mohammad Hamadeh, 43, who took the stand to declare his innocence of second-degree murder.

"Sometimes simple issues are the most contentious," said defence lawyer Colin Adams after the mistrial was declared.

"In this case it boiled down to whether they believed him or not. They just couldn't agree." The married father of three remains in custody and returns to court March 16, at which time the issue of a new trial is expected to be addressed.

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What's open and closed on Family Day

10 Eaton Centre will be open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

There is plenty to do and see on Family Day throughout the GTA.

The TTC will be operating on holiday service, with normal subway service between Wilson and Downsview stations after scheduled subway work was cancelled.

GO Transit is operating on a Saturday schedule. There are no major road closures.

Most malls are closed in the GTA today, but Vaughan Mills is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Square One from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Pacific Mall from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Most grocery stores are closed along with LCBO and The Beer Store. Banks are also closed today.

Government establishments are closed, including all Toronto Public Library and Mississauga Library System branches.

However, Canada Post offices are open, except ones operating inside outlets, such as those found in Shoppers Drug Mart.

The Ontario Science Centre, the Royal Ontario Museum and the Toronto Zoo are open, as well as all movie theatres in the city.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

University of Guelph research focuses on self-injury

Research

- **Videos** The top 100 videos, collectively viewed more than two million times, were analyzed. Half were categorized as character videos featuring one or more people.
- **Character** Stephen Lewis said the other 50 identified as non-character videos had no person at all, and may have been driven more by photos and text, for example.
- **Visual** In 90 per cent of the non-character videos, there were photos of self-injury. In total, 64 per cent of all videos had visual depictions of non-suicidal self-harm.

YouTube videos illustrating cutting, burning and other methods of self-injury may have an impact beyond the online world in normalizing and possibly even reinforcing the behaviour among viewers, a new Canadian study suggests.

Researchers from the University of Guelph and McGill University looked at depictions of non-suicidal self-injury, or NSSI, on the popular video-sharing website.

NSSI is described as the deliberate destruction of body tissue without suicidal intent.

Lead author Stephen Lewis said researchers are aware teens and young adults use the Internet most compared to other age groups, particularly for social networking. The same demographic also seems to report the highest rates of self-injury — consistently ranging from 14 to 24 per cent — and there's been some recent research looking at self-injury communication online, he noted.

Lewis, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Guelph, said this led researchers to want to understand whether young adults communicating about self-injury was also occurring in some context on YouTube, given that it is among the major social networks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bloodiest crackdown yet in Libya's protests

- Demonstrations spread to more than a half-dozen eastern cities
- Internet has been largely shut down

Security forces loyal to Libya's Moammar Gadhafi unleashed heavy gunfire yesterday on thousands marching in a rebellious eastern city, cutting down mourners trying to bury victims in a bloody cycle of violence that has killed more than 200 people in the fiercest crackdown on the uprisings in the Arab world.

Protests were even reported to have spread to downtown Tripoli and a coastal city only about 70 kilometres to the west of the capital. In Benghazi, site of the funeral clashes, pro-Gadhafi forces were chased from a presidential compound by other troops sympathetic to the anti-government demonstrators, a witness said.

2M The capital Tripoli, a city of some two million people, remains a stronghold of Gadhafi support, with security forces swiftly curbing small protests that erupt in the outskirts.

Links to Italy

Italy has strong political and economic ties with Libya, which it occupied for 30 years until 1943.

- **Italy** has been watching the violent protests unfold in Libya with a certain degree of alarm.
- **Rome fears** any relaxation of border controls could send thousands of African migrants to Italy.

Western countries expressed concern at the rising violence against demonstrators in oil-rich Libya, which is sandwiched between friendly neighbours Egypt and Tunisia — where long-serving leaders were successfully toppled in recent weeks.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague said he told Gadhafi's son, Seif al-Islam, that the country must embark on "dialogue and implement reforms," the Foreign Office said.

In the first-known defection from Gadhafi's regime, Libya's representative to the Arab League said he resigned his post to protest his government's decision to fire on defiant demonstrators in the second-largest city of Benghazi. Also, a major tribe in Libya was reported to have turned against Gadhafi.

"We are not afraid. We won't turn back," said a teacher who identified herself only as Omneya.

She said she was marching at the end of the funeral procession on a highway beside the Mediterranean and heard gunfire from two kilometres away.

"If we don't continue, this vile man would crush us with his tanks and bulldozers. If we don't, we won't ever be free."

Omneya, who spoke by telephone, said one of those being buried was a toddler killed Saturday.

Gadhafi has been in power for more than 40 years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WARREN ALLOT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ A young girl gestures towards the Libyan Embassy in London yesterday as several hundred demonstrators gathered to protest Moammar Gadhafi's regime in Libya.

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▶ The Milky Way as seen near Lake Benton and Hendricks, Minn.

In the Goldilocks zone

Conditions 'just right' to support life on 54 planets in the Milky Way, astronomers estimate But they don't know why we haven't had visitors

Scientists have estimated the first cosmic census of planets in our galaxy and the numbers are astronomical: At least 50 billion planets in the Milky Way.

At least 500 million of those planets are in the not-too-hot, not-too-cold zone where life could exist. The numbers were extrapolated from the early results of NASA's planet-hunting Kepler telescope.

Kepler science chief William Borucki said scientists took the number of planets they found in the first year of searching a small part of the night sky and then made an estimate on how likely stars are to have planets.

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David Li, MD '06

HOMETOWN: Toronto, ON
EDUCATED: Ross University School of Medicine
PRACTICING: Toronto, ON Family Practice Physician

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Texas set to let guns on campus

38 Texas has become a prime battleground for the issue because of its gun culture and its size, with 38 public universities and more than 500,000 students.

Texas is preparing to give college students and professors the right to carry guns on campus, adding momentum to a U.S. campaign to open this part of society to firearms.

More than half the members of the Texas House have signed on as co-authors of a measure directing universities to allow concealed handguns. The Senate passed a similar bill in 2009 and is expected to do so again. Republican Gov. Rick Perry, who sometimes packs a pistol when he jogs, has said he's in favour of the idea.

Supporters of the legislation argue that gun violence on campuses, such as the mass shootings at Virginia Tech in 2007 and Northern Illinois in 2008, show that the best defence against a gunman is students who can shoot back.

"It's strictly a matter of self-defence," said Republican state Sen. Jeff Wentworth. "I don't ever want to see repeated on a Texas college campus what happened at Virginia Tech, where some deranged, suicidal madman ... is able to pick off totally defenceless kids like sitting ducks."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Jasmine' protest has China seeing red

Jittery Chinese authorities wary of any domestic dissent staged a show of force yesterday to squelch a mysterious online call for a "Jasmine Revolution," with only a handful of people joining protests apparently modelled on the pro-democracy demonstrations sweeping the Middle East.

Authorities detained activists, increased the number of police on the streets, disconnected some cellphone text messaging services and censored Internet postings about the call to stage protests in Beijing, Shanghai and 11 other major cities.

Police took at least three people away in Beijing, one of whom tried to place white jasmine flowers on a planter while hundreds of people milled about the protest gathering spot, outside a McDonald's on the capital's busiest shopping street.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

T.O. man dies while skiing

ALBERTA. A Toronto man who was skiing with friends at a resort in Lake Louise, Alta., died after crashing into a tree. RCMP Cpl. Jeff Campbell said the 21-year-old was an experienced skier, and it's not known why he suddenly went off the run at the Lake Louise Mountain Resort early yesterday. Police did not immediately release the man's name.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cops seek home invaders

CRIME. Toronto police are looking for two men in connection with a violent home invasion that sent a 16-year-old girl to hospital Saturday. The suspects are described as black, between five-feet-nine and six feet tall with heavy Jamaican accents wearing suits and overcoats. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Record losses for small-biz loan program

Revenue has never come close to covering loss claims ◗ Taxpayers on hook for 85 per cent of losses

A federal loan program for small business paid the banks and other financial institutions a record $113 million in loss claims last year, most of it in hard-hit Ontario, a new report says.

The Canada Small Business Financing Program also guaranteed about $957 million in new loans in 2009-10, which means the annual loss rate hit about 12 per cent.

The report, tabled in Parliament, shows a troubled program that was supposed to break even continues to suffer from red ink and a dwindling number of customers.

The big trouble spot was Ontario, where only about one-third of the new loans were issued but more than half the losses occurred.

Industry Minister Tony Clement, who oversees the program, said in the report's introduction that it "continues to be a successful mechanism for facilitating asset-backed debt financing to business."

$11B

The loan-guarantee fund dates from 1999. The fund has so far guaranteed more than $11 billion in small-business loans issued by banks, credit unions and other financial institutions.

The federal government collects fees based on the size of the loans, but the revenue has never come close to covering the loss claims. Taxpayers are responsible for up to 85 per cent of a financial institution's losses.

A KPMG study last year found the program has incurred net losses to Ottawa of more than $300 million and "the gap between claims and fee revenues will continue to exist and most likely expand."

The number of businesses helped by the program hit a new low in 2009-10 — about 7,500, half the number of a decade ago — but the annual loan value still hit nearly $1 billion because loan limits were doubled to $500,000 last year.

The loans tend to go to the accommodation and food-services sector.

There were a record 1,968 loss claims on the program last year, or an average of about $58,000 each.

The program suffered bad publicity last fall when a Toronto Star investigation reported that about $4 million in loan money under the program was partied away.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas prices jump, but inflation rate down

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Gassing up cost 3.5 per cent more last month than in December.

The higher cost of gasoline pushed overall prices slightly higher in January compared to December, though prices compared to January of last year appeared to have settled after taking a recent jump.

However, the annual inflation rate edged down one-tenth of a point to 2.3 per cent in January, mostly because the pace of growth in energy costs slowed. But on a month-to-month basis, gasoline cost 3.5 per cent more in January than was the case in December, contributing to the 0.3 per cent monthly increase in overall consumer prices tracked by Statistics Canada.

The latest inflation numbers are unlikely to cause the Bank of Canada much concern as it approaches its next date for setting interest rates in just more than a week. Driven by rocketing commodity prices such as oil and food, inflation has been rising in many countries but appears not to have reached Canada. While the so-called headline inflation number remains above the bank's two per cent target, the bank's other closely watched index — underlying core inflation that excludes volatile items such as energy — remained well tethered at 1.4 per cent.

The cost of food rose 2.1 per cent on an annual basis in Canada in January, less than overall inflation. The monthly reading was livelier, however, registering a 0.8 per cent pickup. The big mover for Canadian inflation remained energy, particularly gasoline, with gas prices 13 per cent higher last month than they were a year earlier. As well, electricity costs rose 6.4 per cent, car insurance increased 4.8 per cent, restaurant meals 2.7 per cent and home replacement costs 3.6 per cent.

Overall, seven of the eight major indexes tracked by the agency showed an increase in prices, with clothing and footwear the only component where they were lower, by 2.4 per cent, than they were a year ago. Some individual items showed even greater drops, including computer equipment and supplies, down 10.1 per cent, video equipment, down 10.8 per cent, and women's clothing, which fell 7.2 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Branding. Slang

▶ Erin Alix-Crowdes poses with one of her Wicked New England T-shirts at the Cafe Espresso in Portsmouth, N.H.

JIM COLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A wicked clever idea

New Englanders use it to label everything from autos to shops to software firms. Now, Erin Alix-Crowdes, 32, has parlayed the slang word "wicked" into a T-shirt business. "I just want it to be a New England brand, something New Englanders will embrace and love as their own thing," she said.

Egyptian banks open for business

Egyptians lined up as banks across the country reopened yesterday after being closed for almost a week due to massive strikes in public-sector financial institutions. The government estimates Egypt lost about $1.7 billion in revenue, more than half of which was in the vital tourism sector.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. FRIDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 13.04 (14,123.11)	– 0.11¢ (101.42¢ US)

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CAROLYN MORRIS

Ana Paula Elliott and her husband are both chefs. So, naturally, their top family activity with their four kids is of the culinary kind.

Her six-year-old daughter has become so good at making banana bread that friends ask for her version instead of her parents'.

"She mimics us," Elliott says. "If she sees us doing this," she waves her hand towards her nose, smelling the flavour of her imaginary concoction, "she'll do it, too."

An elegant woman with straight brown hair and long, manicured nails, Elliott is a pastry chef from Mexico. She met her British husband, chef Mick Elliott, at an international culinary event in Toronto years ago. They now run the downtown campus of the Liaison College of Culinary Arts.

To encourage their kids to cook and bake, Elliott tells me, they make it fun. Which, considering the passion she projects when talking about food, probably isn't too hard. She often has her kids decorate shortbread cookies, or cupcakes, which they give as presents to family or friends.

"It gives them a sense of accomplishment. Then they get sugar highs, but that's fine," she says, laughing.

She admits it's not always easy to get kids involved in the kitchen. Some of the chopping and slicing can be dangerous.

"You have to find a recipe that you can do with a child. You don't want them to hurt themselves."

She recommends simple dishes — baking cookies, cakes or muffins with younger children, because it's all about mixing ingredients together. And they can have fun with decorations.

For older kids, she suggests meals like pizzas, vegetarian sushi rolls or salads, which allow them to assemble their own versions. But nothing too complicated — sorry, no paellas.

Of course, one reason many parents don't get into the habit of cooking with their children is that kids just don't move as fast as their parents do in the kitchen.

Recently, one of Elliott's sons volunteered to decorate a cake for his sister's birthday — he designed a carriage for Cinderella. It took him seven and a half hours.

"But he did a great job!" she says.

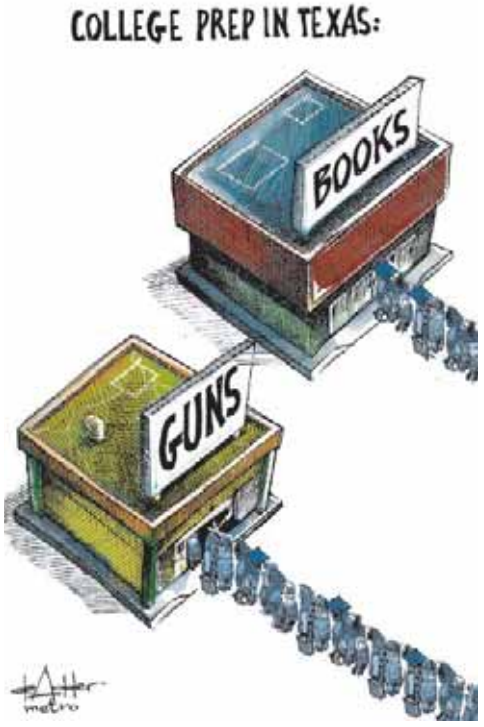
The Elliotts, however, have an advantage over many working parents. Because of their profession, they get home with dinner already made from the day's class. So they have the luxury of enjoying any extra cooking as an activity, rather than a chore.

You can sign up for a parent-child cooking class led by a professional chef from Liaison College Saturday, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. at Harbourfront Centre. For more information, go to www.harbourfrontcentre.com/learn/courses.

Contact Carolyn Morris at urbancompass@metronews.ca

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Cashing in on the royals

Worth mentioning

Fancy a royal wedding condom? Or maybe a commemorative sick bag?

The April wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton has spawned a cottage industry of inappropriate souvenirs.

For ladies and gentlemen who wouldn't dare touch anything that hadn't personally been approved by the princely couple, the Royal Collection sells handmade tankards, plates and pillboxes in English fine bone china, complete with William and Middleton's entwined initials in gold and silver.

But online and in stores, entrepreneurs are cashing in on the inevitable popular backlash against royal wedding mania.

Most infamous are the royal wedding-themed condoms — an online sensation that featured prominently on the website of celebrity-obsessed OK! Magazine. William and Kate ashtrays allow smokers to rub their butts out in the face of the royal couple.

Then there are the William and Kate barf bags, made by Newcastle-based designer Lydia Leith. They feature a picture of the couple underneath the words "Throne Up."

Leith, 24, told The Associated Press she wanted to go about "poking fun at a social occasion from one side or another."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sick souvenirs

LYDIA LEITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Does the Mideast unrest make you nervous? Why?

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Metro Minute at Harbourfront Centre

For many of you, an extra government-commissioned day of running after your children feels like anything but a holiday.

Thankfully, the folks down at the Toronto Waterfront have put together a roster of exciting Family Day activities to keep the kiddies busy and ensure they will be passed out before you even get them back in the car.

Head down to Harbourfront Centre starting at 11 a.m. for a family ice skating party. You'll meet Olympian Jayna Hefford and Paralympian Greg Westlake, who can both give you a few pointers on your technique.

Then mosey on over to the Queen's Quay Terminal for free face painting, live music, magic tricks and more. JORDANA DIVON

CONTRIBUTED

▶ See harbourfrontcentre.com for more details.

The countdown to the Academy Awards is on! With less than a week to go, Metro offers up its picks for who takes home the golden statue in the Top 10 categories Get your Oscar pool ballots ready so the stars won't be the only ones winning on Oscar night

Oscar is going home with

Best Picture

Even with 10 nominees, it's come down to a race between two films: Early favourite The Social Network bloomed early, snatching up a dizzying number of critics' awards and the Golden Globe, but The King's Speech has been on an unstoppable run. The Academy will likely split along age lines for this one, with the older voters going for the more traditional The King's Speech. But our money's on The Social Network making a comeback.

Best Director

David Fincher feels like the front-runner for us with The Social Network, but Darren Aronofsky or David O. Russell could just as easily take it for Black Swan or The Fighter, respectively. And don't discount the Coen Brothers – longtime Oscar favourites – and their heavily nominated True Grit.

Best Actor

This is The King's Speech star Colin Firth's year, and no other nominee has the momentum he's built up for his portrayal of the royal stammerer.

Best Actress

We predict Annette Bening is going home empty-handed again. Though she's been nominated for an Oscar four times without winning, she's going to have to wait for No. 5, because this is Natalie Portman's award. The year of training, the physical transformation and the emotional gymnastics add up to the kind of showy performance the Academy eats up. And she's done nothing but increase her good will since being nominated.

Best Supporting Actor

Another two-horse toss-up, this one comes down to a battle between the latest in a distinguished career (Geoffrey Rush in The King's Speech) versus over-the-top showmanship (Christian Bale in The Fighter). While Rush has been cleaning up elsewhere, expect voters to side with Bale for the same reasons they'll pick Portman for Best Actress.

Best Supporting Actress

Here lies this year's true guessing game. The only nominee close to being considered a front-runner, Melissa Leo (The Fighter), has been handicapped by both a fellow nominee from her film (Amy Adams) and her own misguided, self-financed publicity campaign. Helena Bonham Carter could steal it for The King's Speech. One thing is for sure, Animal Kingdom standout Jacki Weaver doesn't stand a chance, even though hers was the best performance of the bunch.

Best Original Screenplay

Shut out of the Best Director category, expect Christopher Nolan to bring home this as a consolation prize for his brilliant, mind-bending Inception. Of course, the Academy could continue to snub him and give this one to David Seidler for The King's Speech.

Best Adapted Screenplay

Aaron Sorkin will win for The Social Network. It's not even a question at this point. If Sorkin looks surprised or unprepared at the podium, it's an act.

Best Animated Feature

With a nomination for Best Picture on its resumé and Oscar juggernaut Pixar behind it, Toy Story 3 seems like a sure thing, though we'd be just as happy if the surprise hit, How to Train Your Dragon, or art-house favourite The Illusionist pulled an upset.

Best Documentary Feature

We're really hoping Exit Through the Gift Shop wins, not just because it's an amazing film but because we want to see what notoriously camera-shy street artist Banksy does for an acceptance speech. But if the Academy is feeling more traditional than hip, expect Inside Job, a film about the financial crisis, to take the prize.

2 scene

Oscar Box Office

The 10 movies nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards by their box office numbers.

1. Toy Story 3 — $415 million
2. Inception — $292.5 million
3. True Grit — $161 million
4. Black Swan — $99.8 million
5. The Social Network — $96.6 million
6. The King's Speech — $95.4 million
7. The Fighter — $86 million
8. The Kids Are All Right — $20.8 million
9. 127 Hours — $16.9 million
10. Winter's Bone — $6.3 million

METRO

Elusive British street artist Banksy is welcome at Oscars, planners say, but will he show?

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Four Lions walks thin line between funny and horror

British comedy about hapless jihadists uses touchy subject for satire, but is aware of real-life consequences

NAYMAN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

▶ A scene from Four Lions where a group of wannabe jihadists dress in Halloween costumes for their final mission.

Chances are you've never seen a film quite like Chris Morris' Four Lions, which focuses on a hapless group of wannabe jihadists in Northern England.

Morris is no stranger to controversy, having outraged viewers and pundits alike in his native Britain with his satirical Channel 4 news spoof Brass Eye, but he admits that pulling off a comedy about suicide bombers is a delicate balancing act.

"What we were striving was for something ridiculous that had a serious effect," says Morris via telephone from London. "We wanted to show how something that looked silly from a distance could have real consequences."

Indeed, for all the laughs the film scores off of its protagonists' ineptitude — from brandishing tiny replica guns in ostensibly threatening YouTube videos to donning outlandish Halloween costumes for their final mission — there's also a lurking sense of dread. The director suggests that humour and the horror are able to co-exist on screen because of their close proximity in real-life.

"You'll notice that in the real world there are plenty of examples of group actions that are either foundering or even falling apart because of in-fighting," he says.

"That's the case for terrorists as well. We studied various court cases and surveillance material, and it's all across the spectrum. There are people who've gone to Pakistan to learn how to make fertilizer into a bomb, and there are people in the same group who think it's just for fertilizer."

Surprisingly, Four Lions was something of a hit in the U.K., Britain having a long history of provocative comedy. Morris says he's proud to be part of that lineage but that he could easily imagine a North American filmmaker picking up the same gauntlet.

"Anywhere you have extremes of behaviour, there is a comic possibility. If you plot a chart between Team America and Curb Your Enthusiasm, you might find someone in the American canon who could do it," Morris said.

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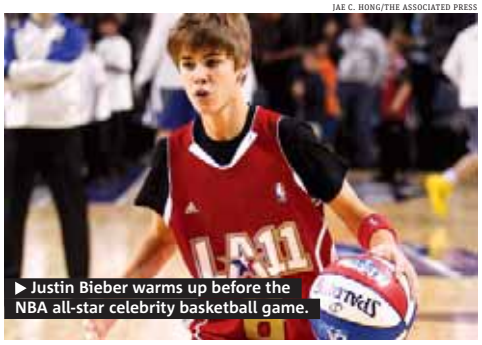

▶ Justin Bieber warms up before the NBA all-star celebrity basketball game.

Most valuable Bieber

Justin Bieber wins MVP award in losing effort at NBA all-star celebrity game

Justin Bieber finally won a trophy in L.A.

The Canadian teen singing sensation, who was shut out at the Grammys, was chosen most valuable player despite playing for the losing team in the National Basketball Association all-star celebrity game on Friday night.

Bieber had eight points, four assists and two rebounds for the West team, which lost 54-49 to the East at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Hall of Famer Scottie Pippen led the Magic Johnson-coached East team with 17 points in a game whose defensive highlight might have been Pippen's third-quarter block of Bieber.

The vertically challenged Bieber scampered up and down the court, his famous shaggy 'do bouncing with every step as girls shrieked at the sight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Special' 10-year-old got her start in contest

BRYAN BEDDER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Simon Cowell

Canada's latest YouTube star first stumbled into the spotlight at a Toronto singing competition, but organizers of the event were quick to recognize she was exceptional.

Ten-year-old Heather Russell drew international attention this week following reports that she landed a contract with the record label run by former American Idol judge Simon Cowell.

But the buzz surrounding the young songstress began two years ago when Russell auditioned for the Amateur Singing Contest with John Santos, the event's founder said.

"I got shivers," Santos said Saturday. "I thought, We've got to do something with this kid."

"She's got a huge voice," he said. "When I first heard her, jokingly I was looking behind her to see if there was a sound system."

Though Russell was too young to enter the competition, she came back every week to rehearse, he said.

Last year, she stole the show in a guest performance at the contest's finals, even though she couldn't compete, he added.

Russell's parents, James Russell and Monica Cidade, were reluctant to thrust their daughter into the spotlight, Santos said. Both are accomplished musicians. James Russell played in Acosta Russell, an early-1990s pop band, and Cidade has recorded over 50 songs in pop, rock and jazz.

"I pushed them to go all the way," Santos said. "I knew there was something special with her."

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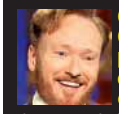
Celebrity tweets

James Cameron [@JimCameron] Did everyone love Black Swan as much as me? My daughter Josa & I are 2 thumbs way up on Aronofsky's masterpiece. Natalie P is magnificent



Conan O'Brien [@Conan OBrien] Charlie Sheen says he's never been drunk on the set of "Two & A Half Men." I, too, have never been drunk on the set of "Two & A Half Men."

Lady Gaga's 'drunk diet'

Singer says she finds balance with daily workouts

Lady Gaga admits that she enjoys a hard-partying lifestyle, but that doesn't mean she doesn't stick to a workout regime.

"I am on the drunk diet," the singer says in an interview with Sirius satellite radio. "I live my life as I want to, creatively. I like to drink whiskey and stuff while I am working. But the deal is I've got to work out every day, and I work out hung over if I am hung over. And it's about the cross-training and keeping yourself inspired. I have to say, I do a ton of yoga." METRO

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Whiskey and yoga: A day in the life of Lady Gaga.

Lainey's Oscar file

BEST ACTRESS: ANNETTE BENING

The Kids Are All Right

Bening was offered the part of Catwoman in Batman Returns, starring Michael Keaton. She accepted the role but subsequently turned it down when she discovered she was pregnant. That was also when Sean Young infamously dressed up in a Catwoman suit to win the role, which eventually went to Michelle Pfeiffer.

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▶ Annette Bening

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BOTH PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Pet owners are increasingly turning to online obituaries for support after their pets pass away.

An obit for Rover

The death of a pet is often as difficult as losing a family member ◐ Pet obituraries help

Pets are our best friends, faithful companions and family members. And not even death, it seems, can break that bond between animal and human.

Nowhere is that more apparent than in the increasing number of pet obituaries springing up in some newspapers and on social media sites.

On websites such as Doggy Heaven and Immortal Pets, on blogs and on countless Facebook pages, grief-stricken pet owners funnel their sadness into heartfelt tributes.

The obituaries — accompanied by photo montages, poems and notes of condolence from friends — are part therapy and part memorial.

The sites also testify to the coveted place pets hold in American culture. About 62 per cent of households include pets, according to the American Pet Products Association.

"It's a reflection of the social fabric," says Samantha Gowen, who writes the Orange County Register's Pet Tales blog, which regularly includes obituaries.

She notes that most pet owners are aware that they will likely outlive their animals, which gives the relationship a special poignancy. "There's a sense of empathy when it comes to pets and their lives," says Gowen.

Online obituaries offer pet owners a way find support and channel the pain of losing a pet.

Kristin Tomyn, a 39-year-old from Indianapolis, was distraught after the sudden death of Dakotah, her 12-year-old Siberian Husky, and was searching the Internet for consolation when she found Doggy Heaven.

Tomyn posted an obit, which she says helped her get through early feelings of shock and nearly inconsolable loss. "It was part of the healing process," she says. "It's getting those feelings out there. You feel like you are being heard."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We would get emails from people in tears, saying they wanted a memorial for Fido ... from people who had nothing in the world but their pet."

TERRY OLDROYD, OWNER OF THE WEBSITE IMMORTAL PETS

Pet support

There are online resources that can help you to get past the death of your pet.

- doggyheaven.com
- immortalpets.com
- ocpets.ocregister.com

3 life

Dog booties

Do household dogs need to wear booties? Canine experts say no, but with some exceptions.

- When healing from foot surgery, or if cuts or a torn toenail exist.
- When snow cakes in a dog's pads, leading to hobbling snowballs.
- When an older dog lacks firm footing or is afraid to get up and move around.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Poll asks pet owners if declawing and debarking surgeries should be done.

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ISTOCK

Zuppa Dorata

This soup gets its golden colour from the saffron threads, which are used to provide a slight lemony flavour and gorgeous orange hue.

Look for them in grocery store spice aisles or bulk food stores.

Ingredients:

- 4 cups (1 L) vegetable or chicken stock
- 1 tsp (5 mL) saffron threads
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) butter
- 4 oz (125 g) angel hair pasta (cappellini)
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) 35% whipping cream
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) chopped fresh Italian parsley

Preparation:

1. In a saucepan bring vegetable stock and saffron threads to boil. Reduce heat to simmer and add butter. Stir until melted.
2. Meanwhile, break pasta into about 2-inch (5 cm) pieces and add to stock. Cook, stirring occasionally for about 5 minutes or until pasta is al dente.
3. In a small bowl, whisk together eggs, cream and parsley. Gently pour mixture into stock, stirring constantly and cook for about 2 minutes or until set and thickened.

Tip: Have some freshly grated Parmeasan to sprinkle over top before serving.

EMILY RICHARDS

Tame wild mushrooms in this French Onion soup

Wild mushrooms give this classic comfort food a hearty upgrade

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

Adding wild mushrooms to this classic French onion soup adds a twist to make a hearty, rich flavour that is perfect for winter fare.

It's a great make ahead type of meal that can be heated up after a ski sessions or even after a fun afternoon in your backyard making a snowman.

Preparation:

1. Place mushrooms in a small bowl and pour water over top. Let stand 15 minutes or until softened. Drain, reserving water and chop mushrooms; set aside.
2. Meanwhile, in large soup pot, melt butter over medium high heat and cook onions for about 10 minutes or until softened. Add mushrooms, garlic and thyme and cook for about 15 minutes or until no liquid remains. Add sherry and cook for about 5 minutes or until evaporated. Add stock and bring to a gentle boil.

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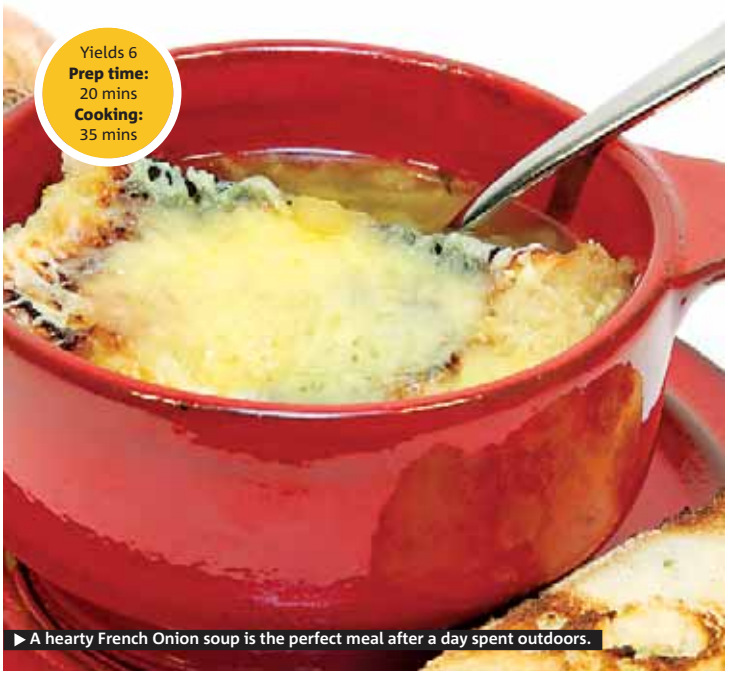

▶ A hearty French Onion soup is the perfect meal after a day spent outdoors.

3. In small bowl, whisk together eggs, cream and parsley. Pour mix into stock, stirring and cook for about 2 minutes or until set and thickened.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOK BOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup (50 mL) dried mushrooms
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) boiling water
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) butter
- 2 large Spanish onions, thinly sliced
- 2 lbs (1 kg) wild mushrooms, such as shitake, cremini, oyster or king, trimmed and thinly sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh thyme or 1 tsp (5 mL) dried
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) dry sherry or Madeira wine
- 8 cups (2 L) vegetable or chicken stock
- 16 slices of baguette
- 6 oz (175 g) Cambenzola cheese, sliced

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Green weddings

Suggestions on how to say 'I do' to planning an eco-friendly wedding

Planning a wedding will make you and your spouse-to-be very aware of seemingly minor details. For example, it may become vitally important to match an exact shade of cream or to find a cathedral length veil. While you're making your decisions, consider how even the small details have an impact on the environment. Here are some suggestions to avoid excessive waste and put the planet on your priority list.

Invitations

Choose invitations made from 100 per cent recycled paper or make your own. You can also have guests RSVP by email or phone instead of by mail.

Centrepieces

Put on your creative hat and use natural materials like pinecones, decorative stones, seashells, willow branches, fruit, or flowers to arrange a display.

Reception

No matter how great the food is, there will always be leftovers when you have a wedding feast. Instead of throwing them away, arrange in advance to have the food delivered to a soup kitchen or shelter.

NEWS CANADA

Trinkets

Impractical wedding trinkets either wind up in the trash or untouched on a dusty shelf.

Options Instead, make a charitable donation as a wonderful way to help others while honouring your guests. Purchase eco-friendly gifts such as fruit trees, a rainwater-harvesting tank, a hand-dug well, or a fuel-efficient cooking stove from charities like Christian Children's Fund of Canada

NEWS CANADA

▶ Becoming more aware of the environment during your wedding planning will help you and your spouse-to-be make a better and cleaner world.

Queen of Green

LINDSAY COULTER
GREEN@METRONEWS.CA

PURCHASING A CLEAN KITTY LITTER

What do I need to look for in a "green" kitty litter? *Allison of Vancouver*

Before you consider the type of kitty litter to buy for Fluffy, see what your city suggests when it comes to getting rid of the waste.

Characteristics to look for in a kitty litter include biodegradable products, because you'll be sending it to the landfill or composting it yourself at home. (Don't compost cat litter if you plan to spread it on edible plants, like those in your vegetable garden.) Many brands are also made from renewable plant materials like corn or wheat. These are made from by-products like corn cobs rather than food-grade sources. You may have also seen recycled paper pellets or some made from wood waste, typically pine.

What all of these options also have in common is that they tend to be chemical-free and fragrance-free. Definitely avoid scented products. Instead, deodorize with baking soda by keeping an open box nearby.

David Suzuki Foundation

Shop 'Til You Drop…Your Rate

More Quotes = More Savings On Car Insurance

Do You Love Shopping Around For The Best Deal?

If you're like most people, you'll often spend hours doing research, checking flyers, looking for specials, and running from one store to another to make sure you get the best possible price on everyday items such as; clothes, electronics, furniture, and even groceries. Nothing beats the thrill of knowing you paid less for something by shopping at one place instead of the other, right? It all adds up – the time you invest and knowing where to go to get the best deals could end up saving you a bundle in the long run.

When Was The Last Time You Shopped for Car Insurance?

Sadly, even the smartest shoppers often don't spend nearly the same amount of time and energy shopping for car insurance as they do for other items. After all, car insurance can be confusing, it never goes "on sale" (it only seems to get more expensive), it isn't much "fun" to buy, and it seems like no one place always has the best prices. But what if one place compared the rates from over 30 insurance companies? And what if it would only take about 10 minutes? And what if you could end up saving hundreds, or even thousands of dollars? This is where InsuranceHotline.com can help by providing a free unbiased rate comparison service for your driving profile that can connect you with the lowest rate available through our large network of licensed brokers and agents.

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Unlike most of its competitors, InsuranceHotline.com does not sell insurance, is not a licensed broker or agent, and is not owned in whole or in part by an insurance company. This allows InsuranceHotline.com to be unbiased when providing insurance quotes and keeps its focus solely on finding lower insurance rates for consumers. By contrast, most websites offering to "compare insurance quotes" are owned by or affiliated with insurance brokers or agents and are therefore only capable of quoting rates from the limited number of insurance companies they represent, typically no more than 4 or 5.

Rate Comparison

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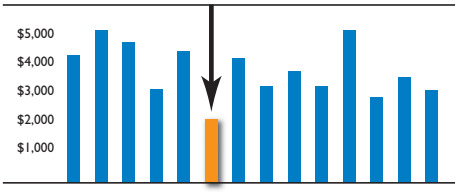

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WORDS OF WISDOM

"I don't think we've ever exhaled."

Nina McCreath stands with her partner, Cathy Francis, in the middle of their charming bookshop in Toronto. The Flying Dragon has been a success since they opened their doors seven years ago, but as small business owners they feel they can't ever relax and enjoy their popularity.

"It's a business, not a hobby," McCreath says bluntly. "And we must always be vigilant."

The Flying Dragon was a great idea that almost never made it off the ground. Despite submitting a comprehensive business plan that had taken over a year to complete, the banks would not give the women a start up loan. That's when they created their own turning point and went to the publishing industry to get credit and enough books to stock their shelves.

"They put their faith in us that we could run a successful business and we will be grateful forever."

As their customers stream through the door and the books leave the shelves, Cathy and Nina say they believe that personal growth is just as important as the bottom line.

"It's not what you achieve, it's what you become."

Turning a page

Success tips for business owners.

- Ask people for their opinion about your idea. When you put them all together you'll be surprised how much you will learn
- Do a full and complete business plan, no matter how small your idea, to make sure you cover all aspects to starting and running your business.
- If you are contemplating a partnership, determine what each person will bring to the business and see if you have all your bases covered.
- Take a look at your family life five, 10, 15 years down the road and see if you can still see yourself working and living the dream.

▶ Nina McCreath and Cathy Francis pose in their bookshop, The Flying Dragon, in Toronto.

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Jotting down your joy

"If you don't like something, change it; if you can't change it, change the way you think about it."

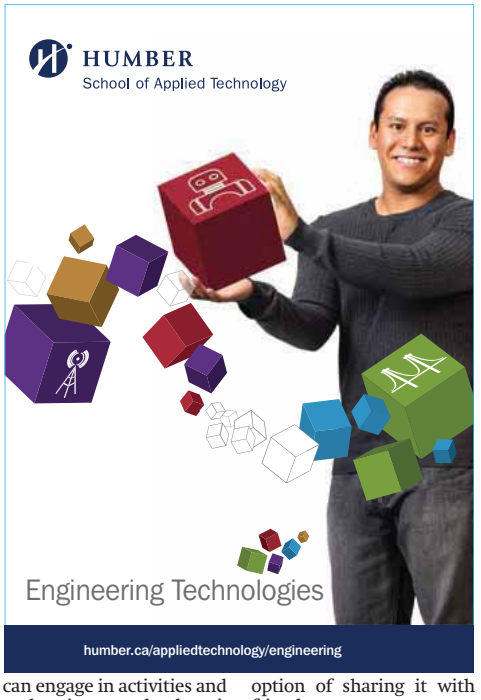
This quote, by children's author Mary Engelbreit, summarizes the past few years of Faisal Sethi's life. It's a path that led the creative director to his startup, which encourages users to write down things they're grateful for every day.

In 2009, the 35-year-old had started caring for his father, whose health was quickly deteriorating. He had left his job to care for him full-time but soon discovered it was too great of a task.

The weight of his problems led Sethi, who lives in Ottawa, to research the idea of happiness and how to attain it. He spent hours looking over academic papers on the subject, and over and over Sethi would read about the importance of gratitude journals.

Gratitude journals are diaries meant to document what you are most grateful for. The concept became widely popular after talk show host Oprah Winfrey promoted the idea.

"I started actively doing a gratitude journal but also realized there were some limitations," said Sethi. "Happiness isn't an intellectually passive state. We can engage in activities and tools to increase that happiness."



And so, Sethi founded Happyrambles, a free website that emails users the question "What are you happy for today?" Their responses are stored in a private online gratitude journal, and they have the option of sharing it with friends.

He said by being notified by email, which is sent in the evening (though users can change the time of day) the website is actively engaging users to think and then write about what they're most grateful for each day. Sethi said his website is more environmentally friendly than a physical journal since it saves on paper and is more secure.

Happyrambles was officially launched in January. It's currently in the beta phase and has 1,000 users around the world.

Sethi said that after writing in his gratitude journal, he "started seeing the world a little bit differently."

"You find yourself actively looking for the good things in life on a daily basis," he said.

However, some experts on happiness question the notion of writing a gratitude journal daily.

Mark Holder is an associate professor of psychology at the University of British Columbia, who specializes in positive psychology. He acknowledged that gratitude is linked to "positive flourishes" and research suggests that people who engage in gratitude activities are happier. However, Holder questioned the structure of Sethi's website.

In researching other studies on the topic, Holder found that people are happiest when they show gratitude for three things, once a week. He noted that it's also key to add variety.

"You have to change the dimensions," he said. "One day I'll be happy for something physically, one day I'll be happy for my path, or something I'm looking forward to in the future, or community, friends or family. You've got to switch it up."

Holder said that if a user is encouraged to write something every day, it can eventually be a burden.

"It can be seen as a chore and if you do it too often, it can actually reduce happiness," he said.

Holder recommends taking a different approach, by asking family or friends what they are grateful for on a weekly basis, perhaps at the dinner table. He also suggests starting a gratitude album, similar to a scrapbook, with tactile pieces from happy memories or writing letters to people who've had positive effects in your life.

Still, Sethi credits his daily gratitude journal for changing his perspective.

"It's taught me to be in the moment, whether it's walking my dog, or the smell of his breath or the crisp air on a Sunday morning," he said. "It really improves the quality of life."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"It's taught me to be in the moment, whether it's walking my dog, or the smell of his breath or the crisp air on a Sunday morning..."
FAISAL SETHI, FOUNDER OF HAPPYRAMBLES

▶ Fasail Sethi, founder of Happyrambles, has found that regularly documenting the things he is thankful for has improved his general outlook on life.

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4 sports

Roddick snaps Raonic's streak

Milos Raonic's dazzling run at the ATP Tour event in Memphis ended in defeat.

The 20-year-old Canadian dropped a hard-fought 7-6 (7), 6-7 (11), 6-4 decision to American Andy Roddick in the final of the Regions Morgan Keegan Championships yesterday.

Raonic, of Thornhill was gunning for his second consecutive ATP Tour victory after winning last weekend in San Jose, Calif.

His surprising two-week performance will move him to around No. 37 in the tennis world rankings. He finished 2010 ranked No. 156.

The top-seeded Roddick becomes the eighth American with at least 30 titles, only three behind the late Arthur Ashe.

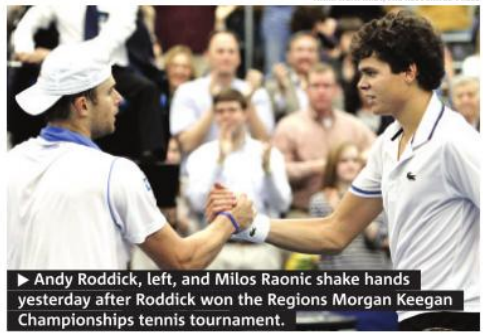
"I think I was very fortunate. I feel like I got outplayed, I just stuck around and kept trying," Roddick said. "What a memorable 30th victory for me. I couldn't be happier to do it in Memphis."

Raonic had 32 more aces and finished the week with 125. He hit 150 miles per hour to hold serve in the 10th game of the third set, but it wasn't enough.

This was the first meeting between Raonic and Roddick, who ranks behind only Federer (67) and Rafael Nadal (43) for career wins among active players.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Andy Roddick, left, and Milos Raonic shake hands yesterday after Roddick won the Regions Morgan Keegan Championships tennis tournament.

Quoted

"It's going to be a party the whole year."

NEW YORK YANKEES CAPTAIN DEREK JETER JOKED YESTERDAY ABOUT APPROACHING THE 3,000-HIT MARK FOR HIS CAREER. THE SHORTSTOP IS 74 HITS FROM THE MILESTONE ENTERING THE 2011 SEASON.

"It's something thats very hard to do ... Not too many people have done it."

Home field edge works for Flames

Boston Bruins the only other home team to win outdoor game

FLAMES	CANADIENS
4	0

The Calgary Flames bucked a trend of host teams losing NHL outdoor games by defeating the Montreal Canadiens 4-0 in the Tim Hortons Heritage Classic yesterday.

Rene Bourque scored a pair of goals, Anton Babchuk scored short-handed and Alex Tanguay also struck for Calgary in front of 41,022 on a cold, clear night at McMahon Stadium.

Flames goalie Miikka Kiprusoff stopped 39 shots for his fourth shutout this season, while Montreal counterpart Carey Price turned away 33 of 37 in the loss.

Heading into the game, visiting teams were 4-1 outside dating back to the last Heritage Classic in 2003.

The victory vaulted the Flames over four teams in the Western Conference. They moved into a tie with fifth-place Nashville.

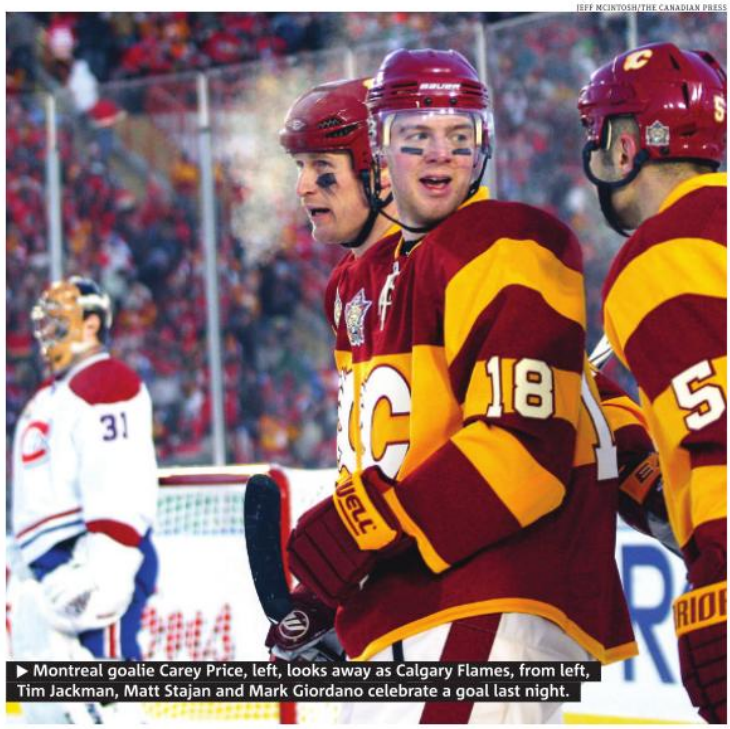
The Flames (31-22-8) have collected points in 18 of their last 20 games, but the conference is so tight less than 10 points separates third from 12th.

Montreal (31-22-7) dropped to 1-2-2 in their last five games.

The temperature didn't quite make it to the predicted high of –8 C. It was –9 when the puck dropped, but the wind made it feel like –17.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Montreal goalie Carey Price, left, looks away as Calgary Flames, from left, Tim Jackman, Matt Stajan and Mark Giordano celebrate a goal last night.

Grapes re-ups with CBC

Don Cherry has renewed his contract with Hockey Night in Canada through the 2011-12 NHL season, CBC announced Saturday.

"Were delighted to announce that the venerable hockey icon Don Cherry has signed on for another season and will continue to provide hockeys liveliest and sometimes provocative commentary," Kirstine Stewart, executive vice-president of CBC English Services, said in a statement.

"Don's knowledge of the sport is exceeded only by his love for it. We are proud of his enduring connection with the game."

NHL COMMISSIONER GARY BETTMAN

Terms of Cherry's contract were not disclosed.

"We join millions of fans in congratulating Don on his new contract and wishing him continued success as the declarative voice of CBCs definitive hockey broadcast," said NHL commissioner Gary Bettman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scan code for sports

Sports in brief

Historic day at Daytona 500

NASCAR. Twenty-year-old Trevor Bayne won the Daytona 500 in only his second Sprint Cup start yesterday. He won NASCAR's biggest race just one day after his birthday. He became the youngest Daytona 500 winner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gaborik leaves game with concussion

NHL. Rangers forward Marian Gaborik missed the final two periods of a 4-2 loss to the Philadelphia Flyers yesterday because of a concussion coach John Tortorella said occurred before the game.

Gaborik had 4:39 of ice time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL BERESWILL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Luke Schenn will be looked to as a leader on and off the ice since the departure of Tomas Kaberle.

Leafs blue-line fills gaps from within

- Defencemen getting chance to show their value after roster shakeup
- Luke Schenn emerges as leader, wearing the 'A' as alternate captain

As the Maple Leafs take the twin tracks toward the trade deadline and — perhaps — the eighth seed in the playoffs it is the blue-line that has undergone a massive reconstruction.

With the departures of Tomas Kaberle and Francois Beauchemin, the Maple Leafs are filling in the gaps from within. Carl Gunnarsson and Brett Lebda are assuming larger roles and Luke Schenn is getting some power-play time.

All the blue-liners are getting an opportunity to prove they are capable of more so that GM Brian Burke might not have to add a puck-moving defenceman to his wish list along with a No. 1 centre.

"Tomas Kaberle was an all-star in this league, and you're going to miss him, for sure," said Schenn. "Moving forward, though, we've got a bright future here in Toronto."

Here's a look at how the Maple Leafs line up on the blue-line.

SCHENN-GUNNARSSON:

So Schenn gets the "A," temporarily, until Colby Armstrong returns from blurred vision. The early returns suggest the fans like it, based on the way they chanted "Lu-u-u-u-uke" throughout Saturday's 1-0 shootout loss to Ottawa.

At 21, Schenn is the youngest member of the Maple Leafs and among the team's longest-serving players.

The most intriguing development Saturday was the ice time alloted to Gunnarsson. The second-year Swedish defender logged a season-high 24 minutes 20 seconds, playing alongside Schenn, both in five-on-five situations and as the second defensive pairing on the power play.

"We didn't give up any goals (against Ottawa), so our D got the job done."
RON WILSON

PHANEUF-AULIE:

This could be an awesome shut-down pairing over time.

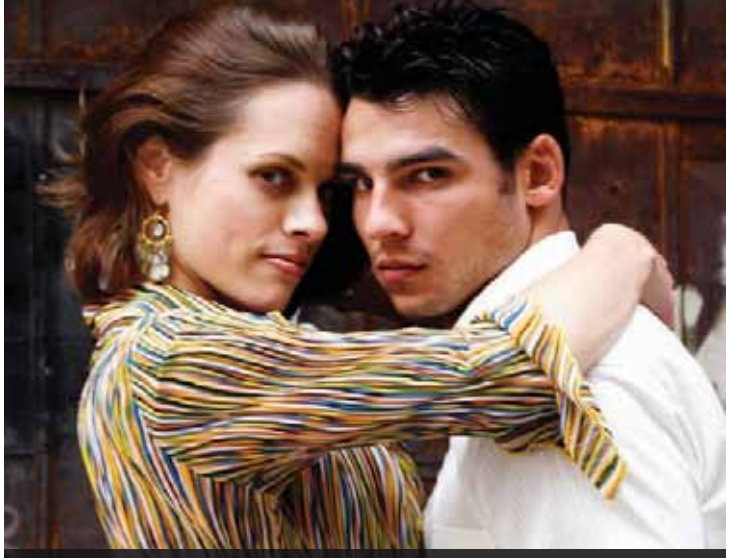
Dion Phaneuf is at his best when he's hitting players. Keith Aulie, at six-foot-five, has incredible reach but has to learn what NHL referees believe to be is hooking. He hasn't recorded a point since his recall, but that's neither here nor there. He hasn't played less than 21 minutes and looks incredibly comfortable.

KOMISAREK-LEBDA:

Lebda, a healthy scratch 28 times and a team-worse minus-17, is getting a second lease on life with Kaberle's departure. He's supposed to be a puck-moving defenceman, helping the team gain the zone. Mike Komisarek, like Phaneuf, is at his best when he's hitting. He's been getting in some good hits lately and there are signs his game is coming around.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Amy & Matt are shackin' up



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EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	59	39	15	2	3	196	149	83	19-8-0-2	20-7-2-1	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Tampa Bay	59	34	18	3	4	179	185	75	19-7-1-3	15-11-2-1	5-3-0-2	L3
d-Boston	59	33	19	2	5	185	144	73	15-12-1-2	18-7-1-3	5-5-0-0	W2
Pittsburgh	60	36	19	2	3	178	146	77	20-10-1-0	16-9-1-3	5-4-0-1	L1
Washington	60	31	19	5	5	164	153	72	17-7-2-5	14-12-3-0	4-5-0-1	W1
Montreal	60	31	22	4	3	154	154	69	19-7-3-3	12-15-1-0	4-4-0-2	L3
NY Rangers	61	31	26	2	2	168	152	66	14-14-1-2	17-12-1-0	2-7-0-1	L2
Carolina	60	28	24	4	4	174	184	64	15-10-1-1	13-14-3-3	3-5-2-0	L1
Buffalo	58	27	25	6	0	166	171	60	12-15-2-0	15-10-4-0	5-4-1-0	L3
Atlanta	60	25	25	4	6	173	197	60	13-12-1-4	12-13-3-2	2-7-1-0	L3
Florida	58	25	26	3	4	154	158	57	12-11-3-3	13-15-0-1	3-5-1-1	W1
Toronto	59	25	27	3	4	150	179	57	13-11-3-3	12-16-0-1	6-2-1-1	L1
New Jersey	59	25	30	3	1	128	161	54	13-13-2-1	12-17-0-1	9-0-1-0	W7
NY Islanders	59	22	30	3	4	161	195	51	11-14-1-3	11-16-2-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Ottawa	59	19	31	5	4	132	194	47	9-16-2-3	10-15-3-1	2-6-1-1	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	60	38	13	4	5	202	142	85	21-4-1-4	17-9-3-1	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Detroit	59	37	16	4	2	199	169	80	17-8-3-1	20-8-1-1	7-3-0-0	W5
d-Phoenix	60	32	19	6	3	172	167	73	15-10-3-2	17-9-3-1	8-2-0-0	W7
San Jose	60	33	21	4	2	167	154	72	15-10-2-1	18-11-2-1	7-2-0-1	W3
Nashville	59	31	20	5	3	156	139	70	14-6-4-3	17-14-1-0	4-4-1-1	L1
Calgary	61	31	22	3	5	185	175	70	18-9-1-2	13-13-2-3	7-1-1-1	W3
Los Angeles	59	32	23	2	2	163	142	68	17-9-1-0	15-14-1-2	6-1-1-2	L2
Dallas	59	31	22	2	4	164	171	68	17-8-2-3	14-14-0-1	2-7-1-0	L4
Minnesota	59	31	22	1	5	154	155	68	15-12-0-3	16-10-1-2	6-3-0-1	L1
Anaheim	60	32	24	2	2	169	178	68	17-9-0-1	15-15-2-1	6-4-0-0	L3
Chicago	59	30	23	2	4	186	166	66	18-14-0-0	12-9-3-3	4-4-0-2	W1
Columbus	58	29	23	3	3	159	175	64	14-13-0-2	15-10-3-1	5-4-0-1	W1
St. Louis	57	27	21	4	5	160	167	63	18-8-1-3	9-13-3-2	5-3-1-1	W3
Colorado	59	25	27	7	0	173	202	57	14-14-4-0	11-13-3-0	0-9-1-0	L10
Edmonton	59	19	32	1	7	150	198	46	10-17-1-3	9-15-1-3	4-6-0-0	W3

d – division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Yesterday's results
Calgary 4 Montreal 0
Chicago 3 Pittsburgh 2 (SO)
Detroit 2 Minnesota 1 (SO)
Philadelphia 4 N.Y. Rangers 2
Washington 2 Buffalo 1
Saturday's results
Edmonton 5 Atlanta 3
Ottawa 1 **Toronto** 0 (SO)
Vancouver 5 Dallas 2
Florida 3 Tampa Bay 2 (SO)
New Jersey 4 Carolina 1
N.Y. Islanders 3 Los Angeles 0
Phoenix 3 Nashville 2
San Jose 4 Colorado 0
St. Louis 9 Anaheim 3
Tonight's games
Florida at N.Y. Islanders, 1 p.m.
Chicago at St. Louis, 2 p.m.
Washington at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

FLAMES 4, CANADIENS 0
First Period
1. Calgary, Bourque 18 (Tanguay, Jokinen) 8:09 (pp)
Penalties — Subban Mtl (tripping) 6:11, Gill Mtl (tripping) 6:44.
Second Period
2. Calgary, Babchuk 9 (Glencross, Morrison) 12:44 (sh)
3. Calgary, Bourque 19 (Sarich) 14:46
Penalties — Hamrlik Mtl (high-sticking) 0:45, Bouwmeester Cal (interference) 10:59.
Third Period
4. Calgary, Tanguay 16 (Iginla, Morrison) 10:53 (pp)
Penalty — Hamrlik Mtl (hooking) 8:58.
Shots

Montreal	8	21	10	—39
Calgary	19	11	7	—37

Goal — Montreal: Price (L,27-20-6); Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,27-19-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 0-1; Calgary: 2-4.
Referees — Brad Meier, Mike Leggo.
Linesmen — Mike Cvik, Mark Wheler.
Att. — 41,022 (41,022) at Calgary.

SATURDAY
OILERS 5, THRASHERS 3
First Period
1. Atlanta, Byfuglien 18 (unassisted) 4:37
Penalties — Wheeler Atl (hooking) 1:59, Bogosian Atl (hooking) 5:51.
Second Period
2. Atlanta, Ladd 21 (Wheeler, Enstrom) 0:59
3. Edmonton, Paajarvi 10 (Omark, Gilbert) 14:57
Penalties — Eberle Edm (holding the stick) 5:42, Byfuglien Atl (delay of game) 7:20, Stuart Atl, Jacques Edm (fighting) 9:50, Penner Edm (tripping) 11:57, Gagner Edm (delay of game) 17:48, Peckham Edm (interference) 19:51.
Third Period
4. Atlanta, Kane 17 (Bogosian, Hainsey) 1:12
5. Edmonton, Hall 18 (Hemsky, Foster) 1:42 (pp)
6. Edmonton, Hall 19 (Hemsky, Gilbert) 2:21 (pp)
7. Edmonton Hall 20 (Gagner, Smid) 14:35 (pp)
8. Edmonton, Hemsky 13 (Horcoff, Peckham) 19:48 (en)
Penalties — Enstrom Atl (hooking) 0:40, Thorburn Atl (tripping) 1:19, Enstrom Atl (slashing) 9:01, Penner Edm (slashing) 9:10, Antropov Atl (double high-sticking) 12:54.
Shots

Atlanta	6	16	9	—31
Edmonton	6	5	15	—26

Goal (shots-saves) — Atlanta: Mason (L,7-8-2); Edmonton: Dubnyk (W,7-7-6). Power plays (goals-chances) — Atlanta: 0-5; Edmonton: 3-8.
Referees — Gord Dwyer, Brad Watson.
Linesmen — Don Henderson, Brad Lazarowich.
Att. — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SENATORS 1, LEAFS 0 (SO)
First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Condra Ott (hooking) 12:08, Toronto bench (too many men; served by Lupul) 14:04, Kovalev Ott (high sticking), Lessard Ott, Rosehill Tor (misconduct) 17:31.
Second Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Foligno Ott (holding the stick) 4:23, Carkner Ott (roughing) 7:33, Rosehill Tor, Lessard Ott (fighting) 12:48.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Phillips Ott (holding) 0:40, Hanson Tor (interference) 6:00, Phaneuf Tor (interference) 16:14.
Overtime
No Scoring.
Penalty —Kuba Ott (hooking) 2:04.
Shootout
(Ottawa wins 1-0)
Ottawa (1) — Kovalev, miss; Spezza, goal; Toronto (0) — Bozak, miss; Grabovski, miss; Kulemin, miss.
Shots

Ottawa	5	10	7	0 —22
Toronto	13	17	13	4 —47

Goal — Ottawa: Anderson (W,14-15-3); Toronto: Reimer (OTL,8-4-2).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Ottawa: 0-3; Toronto: 0-6.
Referees — Bill McCreary, Kyle Rehman.
Linesman — Greg Devorski, Scott Driscoll.
Att. — 19,460 at Toronto.

CANUCKS 5, STARS 2
First Period
1. Vancouver, D. Sedin 31 (H. Sedin) 2:46
2. Dallas, Neal 21 (Eriksson) 4:36
Penalties — Morrow Dal, Torres Vcr (fighting) 3:52, Ehrhoff Vcr (hooking) 9:16, Salo Vcr (delay of game) 10:24, Skrastins Dal (high-sticking) 19:05.
Second Period
3. Vancouver, Torres 12 (Rome) 6:29
Penalty — Sutherby Dal (high-sticking) 14:37.
Third Period
4. Vancouver, D. Sedin 32 (H. Sedin, Burrows) 7:39
5. Dallas, Morrow 25 (Langenbrunner, Ribeiro) 13:33
6. Vancouver, H. Sedin 14 (D. Sedin, Burrows) 15:53
7. Vancouver, Torres 13 (Malhotra, Hansen) 16:26
Penalties — Glass Vcr (holding) 8:31, Rome Vcr, Daley Dal (cross-checking) 20:00.
Shots

Dallas	11	5	8	—24
Vancouver	14	13	11	—38

Goal — Dallas: Raycroft (L,8-5-0); Vancouver: Luongo (W,28-10-7).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Dallas: 0-3; Vancouver: 0-2.
Referees — Tom Kowal, Don Van Massenhoven. **Linesmen** — Lonnie Cameron, Steve Miller.
Att. — 18,860 at Vancouver.

SOCCER

ENGLAND
FA CUP
FOURTH ROUND
Replay
Manchester City 5 Notts County 0
FIFTH ROUND
Fulham 0 Bolton 1
Leyton Orient 1 Arsenal 1
PREMIER LEAGUE
West Bromwich Albion 1 Wolverhampton Wanderers 1

FRANCE
LIGUE 1
Montpellier 1 Lille 0
Nice 0 Paris Saint-Germain 3
Toulouse 1 Rennes 2

GERMANY
BUNDESLIGA
Bayer Leverkusen 4 Stuttgart 2
Borussia Moenchengladbach 2 Schalke 1

GREECE
AEK Athens 1 Panionios 1
Atromitos 0 Aris 0
Volos 1 Iraklis 1
Xanthi 1 Larissa 1

ITALY
SERIE A
Chievo Verona 1 AC Milan 2
Fiorentina 0 Sampdoria 0
Genoa 4 Roma 3
Lazio 1 Bari 0
Lecce 2 Juventus 0
Napoli 1 Catania 0
Parma 2 Cesena 2
Udinese 0 Brescia 0

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Henry Barrera, RHP Kevin Pucetas, RHP Kanekoa Texeira, LHP Everett Teaford, C Lucas May, INF Mike Aviles and INF Alcides Escobar on one-year contracts.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Assigned RHP Luis Atilano outright to Syracuse (AHL).

BASKETBALL
NBA
MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Assigned F Larry Sanders to Fort Wayne (NBADL).

HOCKEY
NHL
ATLANTA THRASHERS—assigned LW Nigel Dawes to Chicago (AHL).
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Activated F Ryan Johnson from injured reserve.

TENNIS

RMK CHAMPIONSHIPS & THE CELLULAR SOUTH CUP
At Memphis, Tenn.
Men
Singles
Championship
Andy Roddick (1), U.S., def. **Milos Raonic, Thornhill, Ont.**, 7-6 (7), 6-7 (11), 7-5.
Doubles
Championship
Max Mirnyi, Belarus, and **Daniel Nestor (1), Toronto,** def. Eric Butorac, U.S., and Jean-Julien Rojer (4), Netherlands Antilles, 6-2, 6-7 (6), 10-3 tiebreak.
ATP WORLD TOUR COPA CLARO
At BUENOS AIRES, Argentina
Singles
Championship
Nicolas Almagro (1), Spain, def. Juan Ignacio Chela (8), Argentina, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.
Doubles
Championship
Oliver Marach, Austria, and Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, def. Franco Ferreiro and Andre Sa, Brazil, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
WTA COPA BBVA COLSANITAS
At BOGOTA, Colombia
Singles
Championship
Lourdes Dominguez Lino (7), Spain, def. Mathilde Johansson, France, 2-6, 6-3, 6-2.
ATP WORLD TOUR OPEN 13
At MARSEILLE, France
Singles
Championship
Robin Soderling (1), Sweden, def. Marin Cilic, Croatia, 6-7 (8), 6-3, 6-3.
Doubles
Championship
Robin Haase, Netherlands, and Ken Skupski, Britain, def. Julien Benneteau and Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, France, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 13-11 tiebreak.
WTA DUBAI DUTY FREE CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
At DUBAI, United Arab Emirates
Singles
Championship
Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (16), Russia, 6-1, 6-3.
Doubles
Championship
Liezel Huber, U.S., and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez (2), Spain, def. Kveta Peschke, Czech Republic, and Katarina Srebotnik (1), Slovenia, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

GOLF

PGA TOUR
NORTHERN TRUST OPEN
At Pacific Palisades, Calif
Par 71
Final round

Aaron Baddeley $1,170,000	67-69-67-69—272
Vijay Singh $702,000	68-70-67-69—274
Kevin Na $442,000	71-66-67-71—275
Jimmy Walker $268,667	68-71-69-68—276
Robert Allenby $268,667	67-70-71-68—276
Ryan Moore $268,667	69-68-70-69—276
K.J. Choi $209,625	70-69-70-68—277
Fred Couples $209,625	68-66-70-73—277
J.J. Henry $175,500	69-74-69-66—278
David Duval $175,500	71-71-69-67—278
Justin Rose $175,500	69-69-70-70—278
Bill Haas $112,667	67-74-71-67—279
Jhonattan Vegas $112,667	71-70-72-66—279
Ben Curtis $112,667	71-70-71-67—279
Paul Casey $112,667	71-67-73-68—279
Kevin Stadler $112,667	70-71-69-69—279
Retief Goosen $112,667	69-71-70-69—279
J.B. Holmes $112,667	67-69-72-71—279
Stuart Appleby $112,667	69-72-68-70—279
Spencer Levin $112,667	67-69-72-71—279
Paul Goydos $70,200	72-73-68-67—280
Geoff Ogilvy $70,200	69-71-71-69—280
Cameron Tringale $70,200	71-68-71-70—280
John Senden $70,200	67-69-71-73—280
Zack Miller $51,838	76-66-71-68—281
Vaughn Taylor $51,838	71-71-68-71—281
Martin Laird $51,838	67-73-69-72—281
Erik Compton $51,838	72-70-75-64—281
Brendon de Jonge $41,329	72-72-69-69—282
Jason Dufner $41,329	70-75-68-69—282
Zach Johnson $41,329	73-70-68-71—282
Steve Stricker $41,329	73-72-65-72—282
Trevor Immelman $41,329	70-67-72-73—282
Stewart Cink $41,329	70-67-71-74—282
Jarrod Lyle $28,698	70-72-71-70—283
Steve Marino $28,698	71-71-70-71—283
Brandt Jobe $28,698	71-73-69-70—283
Ryan Palmer $28,698	70-71-70-72—283
Rickie Fowler $28,698	74-71-68-70—283
Tommy Gainey $28,698	71-71-69-72—283
Matt Kuchar $28,698	69-73-69-72—283
Phil Mickelson $28,698	71-70-74-68—283
Hunter Haas $28,698	71-69-70-73—283
Jim Furyk $28,698	75-70-71-67—283
Peter Tomasulo $18,590	68-74-71-71—284
Michael Putnam $18,590	72-69-72-71—284
Scott Piercy $18,590	73-66-73-72—284
Scott McCarron $18,590	72-72-70-70—284
Jeff Overton $18,590	73-71-72-68—284
Steve Flesch $18,590	73-71-72-68—284
Chad Collins $15,503	70-73-69-73—285
Robert Garrigus $15,503	73-69-72-71—285
Lucas Glover $15,503	73-72-70-70—285
Harrison Frazar $15,503	69-74-65-77—285
Charley Hoffman $14,560	71-74-68-73—286
Padraig Harrington $14,560	68-71-75-72—286
Hunter Mahan $14,560	72-71-72-71—286
D.J. Trahan $14,560	71-73-71-71—286
Carl Pettersson $14,560	67-78-70-71—286
Corey Pavin $14,560	69-71-76-70—286
Andres Romero $14,560	72-73-72-69—286
Louis Oosthuizen $13,845	71-70-72-74—287
Robert Karlsson $13,845	71-70-72-74—287
Yuta Ikeda $13,845	71-73-74-69—287
Tim Petrovic $13,845	74-70-75-68—287
Shaun Micheel $13,455	72-69-72-75—288
Charles Howell III $13,455	72-72-73-71—288
Arjun Atwal $13,195	71-74-72-72—289
Justin Leonard $13,195	73-72-72-72—289
Jason Bohn $12,935	72-73-72-73—290
Matt Jones $12,935	71-74-72-73—290
Ricky Barnes $12,675	72-73-71-75—291
Sean O'Hair $12,675	72-71-75-73—291

CHAMPIONS TOUR-ACE GROUP CLASSIC
At NAPLES, Fla.
Par 72
Final round

Bernhard Langer, $240,000	64-66-66-196
Fred Funk, $140,800	68-66-66-200
Nick Price, $105,600	68-67-66-201
Russ Cochran, $105,600	64-70-67-201
Mark Calcavecchia, $76,800	67-67-68-202
Olin Browne, $57,600	67-70-66-203
Rod Spittle, $57,600	**70-67-66-203**
Mark O'Meara, $57,600	65-69-69-203
Mark Wiebe, $44,800	71-65-68-204
David Peoples, $40,000	71-69-65-205
Also	
Jim Rutledge, $13,920	**72-70-67-209**

HONDA LPGA THAILAND
At PATTAYA, Thailand
Par 72
Final round
(a - denotes amateur)

Yani Tseng, $217,500	66-71-70-66—273
Michelle Wie, $140,360	69-68-71-70—278
Karrie Webb, $90,294	74-68-68-69—279
I.K. Kim, $90,294	69-73-72-71—279
Paula Creamer, $63,398	69-70-70-71—280

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	40	14	.741	—
d-Miami	41	15	.732	—
d-Chicago	38	16	.704	2
Orlando	36	21	.632	5½
Atlanta	34	21	.618	6½
New York	28	26	.519	12
Philadelphia	27	29	.482	14
Indiana	24	30	.444	16
Charlotte	24	32	.429	17
Milwaukee	21	34	.382	19½
Detroit	21	36	.368	20½
New Jersey	17	40	.298	24½
Washington	15	39	.278	25
Toronto	15	41	.268	26
Cleveland	10	46	.179	31

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	46	10	.821	—
Dallas	40	16	.714	6
d-L.A. Lakers	38	19	.667	8½
d-Oklahoma City	35	19	.648	10
Portland	32	24	.571	14
New Orleans	33	25	.569	14
Denver	32	25	.561	14½
Memphis	31	26	.544	15½
Utah	31	26	.544	15½
Phoenix	27	27	.500	18
Golden State	26	29	.473	19½
Houston	26	31	.456	20½
L.A. Clippers	21	35	.375	25
Sacramento	13	40	.245	31½
Minnesota	13	43	.232	33

d – division leader
Last night's results
East vs. West, 8 p.m.
Monday's Games
No games scheduled
Tuesday's Games
Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Washington, 7 p.m.
Houston at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Denver, 9 p.m.
Boston at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

ALL-STAR SLAM-DUNK CONTEST WINNERS
2011—Blake Griffin, L.A. Clippers
2010—Nate Robinson, New York
2009—Nate Robinson, New York
3-POINT SHOOTOUT WINNERS
2011—James Jones, Miami
2010—Paul Pierce, Boston
2009—Daequan Cook, Miami

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	9	7	2	.778	101	78	—
Boston	9	6	3	.667	99	81	1
Buffalo	7	4	3	.571	78	67	2
Rochester	8	4	4	.500	72	87	2½
Philadelphia	8	4	4	.500	69	81	2½

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Calgary	7	4	3	.571	79	78	—
Minnesota	6	3	3	.500	68	64	½
Washington	9	4	5	.444	115	108	1
Edmonton	7	2	5	.286	73	85	2
Colorado	7	1	6	.143	60	82	3

WEEK SEVEN
Last night's results
Calgary at Edmonton
Minnesota at Colorado
Saturday Results
Toronto 13 Rochester 6
Boston 14 Minnesota 11
Philadelphia 10 Buffalo 9
Friday Results
Toronto 10 Rochester 5
Washington 20 Colorado 7

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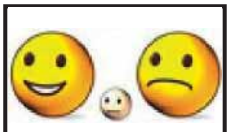

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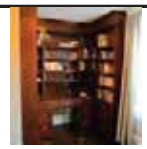

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Events

COMMUNITY FUN FAIR-Games, Food, Prizes
Sat. February 26, 2011, 1:00pm-4:00pm
1050 Huntingwood Drive,
Vendors wanted RSVP 416-396-6830

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- 33 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.
- I AM RIGHT WHERE OTHERS FAIL.
- "ANY PROBLEM HAS SOLUTION"
- "ANY ILLNESS HAS HEALING"

Shaman

I was worried about my pregnancy , I did not feel well and my partner behavior was of indifference, all due to a negative energy, today we are close again. Thanks shaman. *IRINA*

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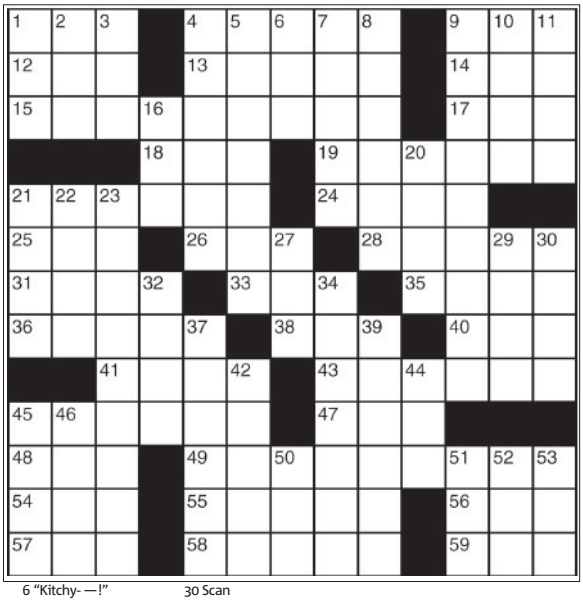

Across

1 Components of psyches
4 Dervish
9 Atl. counterpart
12 Meadow
13 Sierra —
14 "Ben- —"
15 Lustful
17 Historic period
18 Old Oldsmobile
19 Sacred beetle
21 Indiana basketball team
24 Coin of the Continent
25 Durham sch.
26 Boar's mate
28 Whom Bugs bugs
31 Goblet feature
33 Zodiac feline
35 Seep out
36 Calligraphy stroke
38 Plant sticker
40 Gun-lobby org.
41 Leave out
43 Needle partner
45 Jaunty
47 Luau bowlful
48 One's years
49 Greek historian
54 Poolroom stick
55 Obliterate
56 Raw rock
57 Affirma-tive
58 Fender benders
59 Stick with a kick

Down

1 Ailing
2 Sandra or Ruby
3 Pouch
4 Laughs derisively
5 Spray-can contents
6 "Kitchy- —!"
7 Occupied
8 Save
9 Stimulating secretion
10 Emanation
11 Grouch
16 Charlemagne's realm (Abbr.)
20 Singer Guthrie
21 Face, slangily
22 Initial chip
23 Tennessee tribespeople
27 Charlotte's creation
29 Pound of poetry
30 Scan
32 Actress Rogers
34 Overseas military base
37 Went after marlin
39 Colossus of —
42 Yonder
44 Carnival city
45 Risque
46 Chills and fever
50 Skedaddled
51 Youngster
52 Coffee vessel
53 Collection

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

4				9				1
5	1						2	7
			8		5			
	8			2			4	9
		4				6		
9	3			7			8	
			9		6			
7	9						1	3
8				5				6

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	8	2	1	6	9	7	5	4
7	1	5	8	2	4	9	3	6
4	9	6	5	3	7	8	1	2
5	6	8	3	4	2	1	9	7
9	4	1	6	7	8	5	2	3
2	3	7	9	5	1	6	4	8
6	5	9	4	8	3	2	7	1
1	2	3	7	9	6	4	8	5
8	7	4	2	1	5	3	6	9

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To my Marmot,
I love you more than I thought I could ever love anyone. This past year has been the most wonderful of my entire life. I look forward to a lifetime of them. Love so much,
YOUR BOBCAT

I just want to send love to my bf M.c. His been my rock through my life. I just wanna say thank you..je taime cheri... Yours truly Angel m Wallace..

Track 26 Lady: Thank you for returning my belongings and restoring my faith in humanity. You are one in a million!

Debby, I love you dearly, my bestfriend. Times are going to be tough, but I will be by your side for every step of it. Be strong, and have faith.

Today -7°/-14° Variable
Tuesday -6°/-11° Partly cloudy
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Use your powers of persuasion to get others to help you with something important. Because you are so impatient you may be inclined to go it alone but you won't get far on your own.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You are in exactly the right frame of mind to take a few risks, and chances are they will pay off in a big way.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Take the initiative and make things happen. If you sit there waiting for others to make the first move you won't get anywhere worth going today, so stop thinking so much and just act.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Everyone seems to approve of what you are planning, but don't take that as a green light just yet because there are a still a few loose ends that need to be tidied up before the time is right.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You are advised not to take anything, yourself included, too seriously today. Cultivate a frame of mind where life becomes a game and winning and losing are not in themselves that important.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Take responsibility for your thoughts, your words and your actions and don't try to blame others if things don't work out exactly as you had planned. Maybe that's not such a bad thing.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 How much do you trust someone you work with? Enough to trust them with a secret you don't want the whole world to know?

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Push your luck a bit today. Take the kind of chances you usually prefer to avoid.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 A good deed done with no thought of reward for yourself will have the kind of positive consequences that even a far-sighted Sag cannot have anticipated.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 This is one of the best times of the year for socializing and mixing with people from all walks of life, so don't sit there by yourself, get out into the world and make things happen.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Mercury, Mars and Neptune join forces in your birth sign today, making this the perfect time to give wings to your imagination. The world needs people who are not afraid to act on their dreams. In short, the world needs you.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Stand back from yourself today and try to understand why you think and act in certain ways. Once you realize that so much of what you do is done out of habit it will be easier to change your ways.
SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

MICHAEL THOMAS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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